



To: School Committee

From: Dr. Jane Lizotte, Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being
Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School
Ms. Angie Flynn, Director of School Counseling, Shrewsbury High School

Date: November 7, 2023

Subject: Update: Innovation Career Pathways, Career Technical Education, and Career Exploration

As a result of Shrewsbury High School students no longer having access to Assabet Regional Vocational Technical High School, we are in the process of creating multiple curriculum pathways for students to explore fields that match current regional labor demands that do not require a four-year college degree. We also continue to work on developing opportunities for students to explore potential career opportunities through expanding curricular offerings, providing experiential learning activities, expanding partnerships with area businesses for work-based learning experiences(internships), and finding funding outside of the appropriated budget. Since last May, we have completed the following steps, as we continue to strengthen and broaden student learning experiences:

Curricular offerings

1. Offered Pathway programming for students currently in grades 9 &10 (See Table 1 and Table 2)
2. Revamping the current SHS Program of Studies to expand and enhance career and interest-based pathways through courses
 - a. Add Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) for 2024-25
 - b. Add Medical Interventions (MI) for 2024-25
3. Connected with high schools that are currently offering Innovation Pathways programming

Experiential Learning Activities

1. Blackstone Valley Hub for Workforce Development Cohort vocational training courses⁴
2. Mass Fire Academy (May 2024)
3. Lunch and Learn (October 2023-June 2024)
4. Career Fair (February 2024)
5. Job Fair (November 15th, 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)
6. A representative from Puma's marketing group visited business classes
7. Two-day Career exploration and Job Shadow at Marvel Semiconductor (July 25-26, 2023)
8. One-day Career Exploration at Olympus Surgical Technologies America (December 5, 2023)

Expanded Business Partnerships

1. Advanced Manufacturing
 - a. Component Sources International (CSI), Westborough
 - b. Amazon Robotics, Westborough
 - c. Marvel Semiconductor, Westborough
 - d. Moderna Therapeutics Clinical Manufacturing, Norwood
2. Biomedical and Life Sciences
 - a. Moderna Therapeutics Clinical Manufacturing, Norwood
 - b. Charles River Labs, Shrewsbury
 - c. Olympus Surgical Technologies America, Westborough

Funding

1. Currently in the process of applying for an expansion grant for engineering programming through the One8 Foundation
 - a. Potential up to \$40,000k
2. Applied for MyCAP (My Career and Academic Plan) grant through DESE
 - a. Awarded \$5,500
3. Applied for Innovation Pathway Grant Planning Grant through DESE
 - a. Awarded \$25,000
4. Applied for Innovation Pathway Grant for Advanced Manufacturing and Biomedical Life Sciences pathways through DESE-Part A Application. If approved (will know in late November), Part B Application is due February, 2024)
 - a. Potential funding of \$75,000 per Pathway

Planning and Consulting

1. MassHire Partner – MassHire Central Region Workforce Board (MCRWB)
2. Blackstone Valley HUB for Workforce Development

3. AET Laboratory-Physical space design, planning, and equipment
4. Participated in the WPI Project Lead the Way (PLTW) conference
5. One8 Foundation
6. DESE Pathways Webinars
7. Networking with schools currently sponsoring pathway programming
8. Specialized Career Guidance (SCG)

Table 1 SHS Students Currently Enrolled in Pathway Courses 2023-24

Grade 9 Students (39)	Pathway
2 students	Biomedical Pathway
16 students	Business Pathway
2 students	Childcare Pathway
13 students	Computer Science Pathway
5 students	Engineering Pathway
1 student	TV Production and Film Pathway

Table 2

Grade 10 Students (22)	Pathway
2 students	Biomedical Pathway
5 students	Business Pathway
5 students	Childcare Pathway
5 students	Computer Science Pathway
4 students	Engineering Pathway
1 student	TV Production and Film Pathway

The following are testimonials from students who participated in the Fall I and Fall II programming at the Blackstone Valley HUB for Workforce Development:

- “This was a great experience because we learned things we would not in school.”
- “This was a much more relaxing environment than school.”
- “This allowed us to explore career options.”
- “Mr. Evans was very knowledgeable and kind.”

- “We had a good hands-on experience using the machines. The machines we used were advanced.”
- “I look forward to trying the other machines and technology when we go back.”